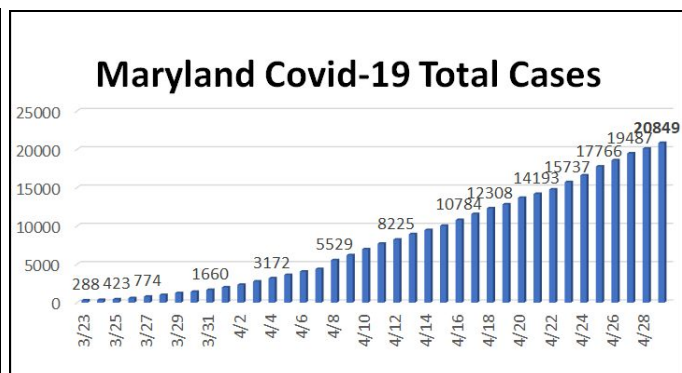
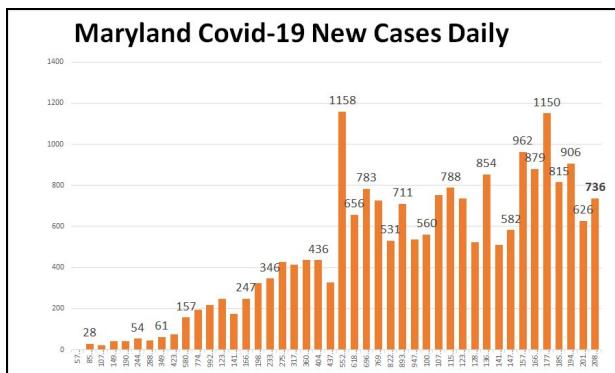
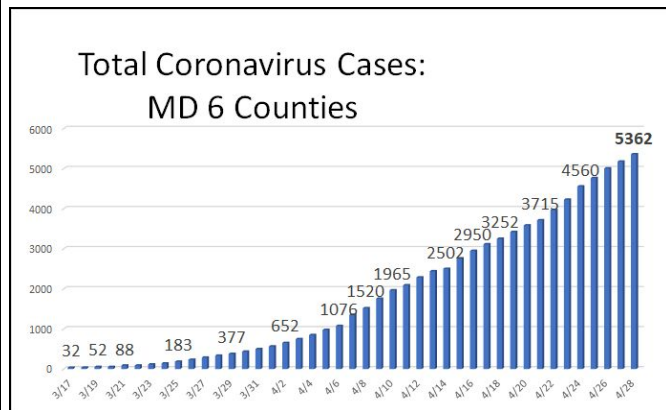
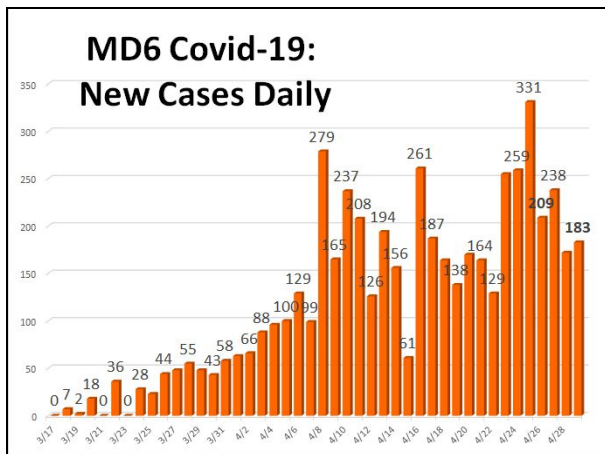
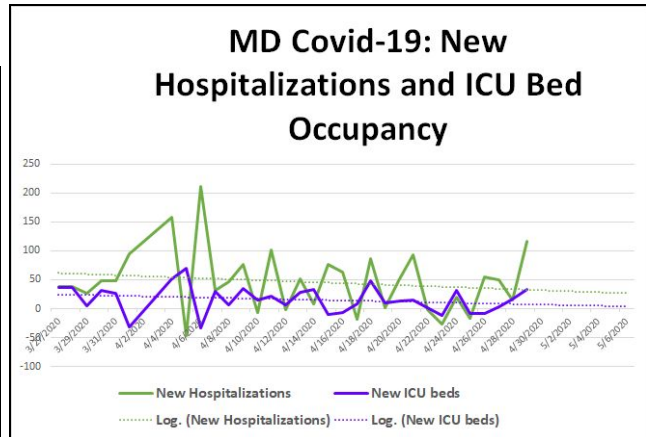
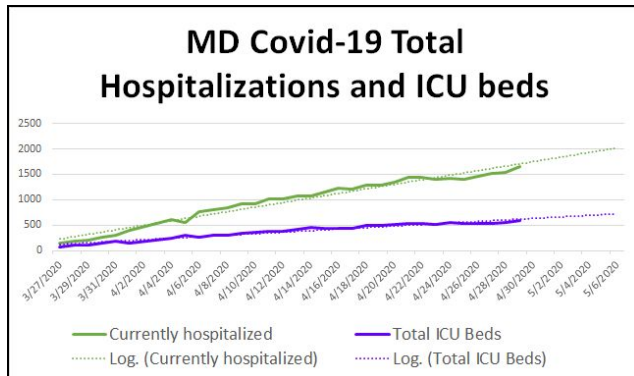


## Daily Coronavirus Update: April 29, 5PM Congressman David Trone (MD6)

### Stats @ 5 PM

**New:** With increased testing capacity coming online in Maryland, Governor Larry Hogan will track trends in **hospitalizations** and **ICU beds** for indicators on when to initiate plans to reopen the state. Here is that data (sources: Baltimore Sun and MD Dept of Health):



MD6 today: MoCo (4152), Fred.(893), Wash.(197), Allegany (116), Garrett (4). MD reports 985 total deaths. Source: [MD Dept. of Health](https://www.maryland.gov/department-of-health-and-general-services/covid-19/).

As of 5PM today, the United States had recorded 1,03,4884 total confirmed cases and 60316 deaths due to Coronavirus ([JHU](https://www.jhu.edu/)).

## Federal Updates

- Optimistic early results from a study using the antiviral drug remdesivir to treat Covid-19 were announced today by Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). Speaking from the White House, Dr. Anthony Fauci stressed the scientific nature of the clinical trial, noting the p-value showed a statistically significant difference in the time to recovery for patients who took remdesivir (median 11 days) compared to the control group (15 days). Differences in mortality rates have not achieved statistical significance, but the study will continue. NIAID is conducting the trial, which includes an international cohort of 397 patients with severe cases of Covid-19. ([CNBC](#))
- Bloomberg Government [reported](#) today that the Administration is trying to organize a “Manhattan Project-like effort to drastically cut the time needed to develop a coronavirus vaccine, with a goal of making enough doses for most Americans by year’s end. the program, called “Operation Warp Speed,” will unite private pharmaceutical companies, government agencies and the military to try to cut the development time for a vaccine by as much as eight months, according to two people familiar with the matter. Taxpayers will shoulder much of the financial risk that vaccine candidates may fail.
- The U.S. economy shrank at a 4.8 percent annual rate in the first quarter of 2020, and is expected to shrink even more so in the second quarter, when actions to mitigate the spread of coronavirus took full hold. The New York Times [reported](#) today that Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin expected the economy to “really bounce back” this summer, but most independent economists are much less optimistic. The Congressional Budget Office last week released [projections](#) indicating that the economy would begin growing again in the second half of the year, but that the G.D.P. would not return to prepandemic levels until 2022 at the earliest.

## Maryland Updates

- Governor Hogan announced several directives to combat what he called clusters, surges, and outbreaks in the state, specifically in nursing homes and in DELMARVA poultry processing plants. ([press announcement](#))
- Upset that nursing homes now account for 4406 confirmed cases (at 133 different nursing homes) and more than 50 percent of deaths in the state, the governor announced new actions and directives, including:
  - Universal testing for all residents and staffs
  - Mandatory acceptance of strike teams assistance
  - New “bridge” teams of registered nurses and health aids to assist nursing homes where staff test positive and can no longer work.
- On the DELMARVA There are 262 cases among poultry workers in Maryland. The governor pointed out that poultry is the state’s largest agricultural product and the facilities are critical to the nation’s food supply. He and the governors of VA and DE are coordinating efforts with CDC and the White House. A testing site is opening at Salisbury State.
- The governor designated this Saturday, May 2, as Healthcare Heroes Day in Maryland, with planned Blue Angels and Thunderbirds Flyovers and lighting of the capital, Camden Yards, and other landmarks in blue.

## District Updates

- Montgomery County
  - a. Local elected officials are working to make sure all residents have a roof over their heads during these unprecedented times. Montgomery County Councilmembers discussed housing stabilization and rental assistance funding during a virtual public hearing on Tuesday. The Council received public testimony and voted unanimously on a special appropriation of \$2 million to the Fiscal Year 2020 Operating Budget which will go towards the COVID-19 Human Services Response and Community Assistance Non-Department Account. The funds will be used to support programs provided by the

Montgomery County's Department of Health and Human Services to end and prevent homelessness. Emergency eviction prevention and housing stabilization programs are also included. Funds are expected to be allocated to provide a short-term rental subsidy program to low- and moderate-income households in response to the current coronavirus pandemic.

- b. As of Wednesday morning, the Maryland Department of Health reports 4,152 cases of COVID-19 in Montgomery County, which is an increase of 149 cases from 4,003 on Tuesday. The health department reports that 218 county residents have died from COVID-19. This is an increase of 17 deaths since Tuesday. Wednesday's number of probable deaths is 24.

- Frederick County

- a. There are nine long-term care facilities in Frederick County reporting cases of COVID-19, including some with deaths from the disease. The Maryland Department of Health released the number of cases and deaths from COVID-19 at nursing homes across the state after repeated requests and articles from The Baltimore Sun. Frederick Health and Rehabilitation Center, which was the first nursing home in Frederick County with reported cases, has the most deaths among residents and staff, with 13 deaths and 46 cases. Ballenger Creek Center, owned by Genesis, has the most cases with 123 cases and 11 deaths. Overall, there are 301 cases at long-term care facilities in Frederick County, and 43 deaths, according to the Maryland Department of Health.

- b.

- Washington County

- a. The Volvo Group plant near Hagerstown is one of three Volvo facilities helping the communities where its employees live and work by producing personal protective equipment, or PPE, for local medical facilities, and through donations to nonprofit organizations.
- b. Proposed leaner operating and capital budgets for Washington County government include no pay raises for county employees and pushing some construction projects back a year or more. The county also is proposing 3.5% increases for water and sewer rates. No changes are expected for landfill fees though some county commissioners suggested extending the current permit period or providing a rebate since services are currently limited at the landfill due to the pandemic. The county commissioners held their Tuesday business meeting via conference call, aired on their YouTube and Facebook pages, to comply with social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- c. DVF Automation and Manufacturing near Hagerstown has been awarded a state grant to use in its production of Personal Protective Equipment. Gov. Larry Hogan announced in a news release Tuesday that \$1.6 million in grants have been awarded to 20 Maryland companies for pivoting to or expanding production of PPE supplies for front-line workers during the COVID-19 crisis. This includes \$30,000 for DVF, for the manufacturing of 156,000 plastic parts for respirators.

- d.

- Allegany County

- a. A sixth Allegany County resident has died from complications of COVID-19, health officials said Tuesday, as state cases climbed past 20,000. The man was in his 50s, hospitalized and had underlying health conditions, the Allegany County Health Department said in a news release. He was not a patient of the Cumberland Healthcare Center, where at least 73 patients have tested positive for the coronavirus, health officials said. The health department also reported four new local cases of the disease, bringing the total to 119.

- b.

- Garrett County

- a. Garrett College announced Monday that the school will remain in a full-telework environment and all physical campus locations will be closed through at least May 31. That decision extended a campus closure that was set to run through May 3. "Based on Gov. Hogan's recently published Road Map to Recovery, it seems highly unlikely college campuses will be approved to reopen before the end of May," said Dr. Richard Midcap, Garrett College's president, in announcing the extension. "We felt it was in the best interests of community members, groups that had events scheduled sometime after May 3, and our employees to announce the extension at this time."

- b. The Garrett County Chamber of Commerce is hosting a free webinar for nonprofits on dealing with the impacts of the current pandemic on the financial health of their organization. “Navigating Uncharted Waters During a Period of Hyper-Change — Impact on Financial Health & Continuity” will be presented from 2-3 p.m. Thursday, April 30, and is free for local nonprofits.
- c.